



**ERIK NASARENKO**  
VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
**NEWS RELEASE**



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**Austin Eis Sentenced to 85 Years to Life for  
Murder of Westlake High Student and Series of Violent Attacks**

VENTURA, Calif. – Ventura County District Attorney Erik Nasarenko announced today that Austin Allen Eis (DOB 05/29/98), of Camarillo, has been sentenced to 85 years to life in state prison for a violent crime spree that culminated in the murder of 15-year-old Wesley Welling and left several others severely injured.

The two-day sentencing hearing was marked by a series of deeply emotional victim impact statements from survivors and family members, many sharing how Eis' actions shattered their lives forever. Kelly Welling, Wesley's mother, addressed the court and the defendant directly.

"No nightmare I can ever have is worse than waking up to this reality—to know that the last thing my son might have seen is your face," Kelly said in court. "You robbed me of my son and the world of a boy who would have become an amazing man. At 15, he was already more of a man than you could ever be. You are not seen as powerful. You are seen as the coward that you are who chose to hurt children."

She continued, "Everyone else will move on—you will go to prison, your lawyer to her next case, but Wesley is never coming back. Every day from this point on is filled with an emptiness. There are no words to describe this pain."

Kelly's statement echoed the grief, anger, and devastation felt by the many victims and families affected by Eis' crimes. Others who spoke described shattered bodies, sleepless nights, fear, and the lasting trauma caused by a single afternoon of violence.

On April 18, 2023, Eis carried out a series of calculated attacks, beginning with a stabbing at a Wal-Mart in Simi Valley and culminating in an act of deadly vehicular violence against students standing outside Westlake High School. He intentionally drove into the group, killing Wesley and

seriously injuring multiple teens. Witnesses reported Eis accelerated before impact, with his vehicle overturning after colliding with a bus stop.

Eis later admitted he targeted the students out of personal frustration and a desire to commit mass violence. The investigation uncovered disturbing evidence, including years of violent ideation, admiration for mass murderers, and extremist beliefs.

Senior Deputy District Attorney Amber Lee, who prosecuted the case, said the voices of the victims and their families were central to the outcome.

“The sentence delivered today reflects not only the calculated brutality of the crimes committed, but the profound and lasting impact on an entire community,” Ms. Lee said. “These families have endured unspeakable pain, and their words in court gave voice to the lives forever altered by this defendant’s actions. This sentence brings finality without forcing them to relive their trauma in trial.”

Eis pleaded guilty in February to 10 felony charges, including first-degree murder, multiple counts of premeditated attempted murder, assault with a deadly weapon, and false imprisonment by violence. He admitted to special allegations involving the use of deadly weapons and infliction of great bodily injury. All charges are strike offenses under California law.

**Case: 2023009480**

**Defendant Information:**

Austin Allen Eis (DOB 05/29/98)  
Camarillo

**Charges pled guilty to:**

- PC 187(a) – Murder
- (6 counts) PC 664/187(a) – Attempted murder
- (2 counts) PC 245(a)(1) – Assault with a deadly weapon (car & knife)
- PC 236 – False imprisonment by violence

**Special Allegations:**

- PC 189 – First degree murder
- PC 664(a) – Premeditated attempted murder
- PC 12022(b)(1) – Use of deadly weapon
- PC 12022.7(a) – Personal infliction of great bodily injury in commission of felony